STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details (of expansion and additions or deletions) will be worked out in the exercises to be undertaken in the Eighth Five Year plan.

Constitution of Environment monitoring Committee

937. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted an Environment Monitoring Committee to ensure effective implementation of environmental safeguards in irrigation, multi-purpose and flood control projects;

(b) if so, the composition of the committee and its terms of reference;

(c) whether the Committee has any non-official members; if so, the criteria for their selection and the remuneration to be paid to them;

(d) whether Government have asked the committee to submit reports from time to time for proper implementation by Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof and to what extent Government would check environmental pollution in the country; and

(f) what steps are proposed to be taken to implement the objectives of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

In addition to the Standing Environmental Appraisal Committee for River Valley Projects in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, an Environmental Monitoring Committee has been set up by the Ministry of Water Resources. The composition and terms of reference of the Monitoring Committee are enclosed. (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir.

The Committee will prepare and submit an annual report on the status of environmental management of different projects in various river basins. Failure to comply with the suggested safeguards may lead to review of the project and action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(f) The Environmental Monitoring Committee aims to ensure:

—Creation of an Environmental Management Committee in each Project;

—Compilation of six monthly reports on implementation of environmental safeguards; and

—Review of the findings every three months.

Statement

COMPOSITION:

(i) Member (WP), Central Water Commission—Chairman.

(ii) Joint Commissioner (PP), Ministry of Water Resources—Member.

(iii) Principal Scientific Officer, Ministry of Environment & Forests—Member.

(iv) Deputy Adviser (I & CAD) Planning Commission—Member.

(v) Subject Matter Specialist Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation—Member.

(vi) Director, Ministry of Welfare—Member.

(vii) Chief Engineer Basin Planning and Management Organisation, Central Water Commission—Member.

(viii) Chief Engineer (Monitoring), Central Water Commission—Member.

(ix) Director (Environment) Central Water Commission—Member-Secretary.

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

(i) To oversee the implementation of the environmental safeguards stipulated by Ministry of Environment and Forests at the stage of clearance of irrigation, multi-purpose and flood control projects.

(ii) To review the mechanism established by the project authorities to monitor the ecology of the project areas, irrigation command areas and the catchment areas.

(iii) To suggest additional compensatory measures/facilities wherever necessary.

(iv) To bring to the notice of the Planning Commission, the Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Environment and Forests important cases of default, which may lead to the review of the projects clearance or the funding arrangements. Such cases where there is default in implementation of rehabilitation schemes for displaced tribals, will be brought to the notice of the Ministry of Welfare also.

Responsibility of monitoring and implementation of Programmes of Government

938. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Programme Implementation has to handle the responsibility of monitoring and implementing Government's programmes without having any statutory or constitutional authority to issue mandatory directions to the project authorities; for completion of the projects;

(b) if so, in what manner the Ministry of Programme Implementation propose to implement the projects without any statutory authority; and

(c) whether Government would consider the delegation of statutory powers of supervision and mandatory direction to the Ministry of Programme Implementation for effective control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While the responsibility of implementation of the projects is that of the concerned administrative ministries/project authorities under them, the Ministry of Programme Implementation on its part monitors the implementation status and highlights the problem areas for appropriate and timely action by the concerned authorities. It also acts to resolve the problems of inter-ministerial nature faced by the projects in their implementation and generally plays facilitative role.

(c) In terms of the Allocation of Business Rules and Transaction of Business Rules all ministries discharge the functions in their assigned areas of responsibility, in the prescribed manner subject to the overriding control of the Cabinet and Parliament. In execution of projects generally more than one Ministry/Department is involved *e.g.* Finance, Planning, Industrial Development etc. and no statutory directions can be given to one Ministry/Department to take responsibility for all the ministries/departments involved in the project.